

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1  
2 applying to the Congress of the United States to call a convention  
3 under Article V of the United States Constitution for the limited  
4 purpose of proposing one or more amendments to the constitution to  
5 impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, to limit the  
6 power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and to limit the  
7 terms of office of federal officials and members of Congress.

8 WHEREAS, The drafters of the United States Constitution  
9 empowered state legislatures to be guardians of liberty against  
10 abuses of power by the federal government; and

11 WHEREAS, The federal government has abused its power by  
12 creating a crushing national debt through improper and imprudent  
13 spending; and

14 WHEREAS, The federal government has abused its power by  
15 invading the legitimate role of the states through the manipulative  
16 process of federal mandates that are to a great extent unfunded; and

17 WHEREAS, The federal government has ceased to abide by a  
18 proper interpretation of the United States Constitution; and

19 WHEREAS, It is the solemn duty of state legislatures to  
20 protect the liberty of the people and of future generations by  
21 proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that place  
22 clear restraints on federal power; and

23 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution  
24 authorizes the several state legislatures to restrict the power of

1 the federal government through the amendment process; and

2 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution provides  
3 that on application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the  
4 several states Congress shall call a convention for the purpose of  
5 proposing amendments to the constitution; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the 85th Texas Legislature apply to Congress  
7 to call a convention under Article V of the United States  
8 Constitution for the limited purpose of proposing one or more  
9 amendments to the constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the  
10 federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of the  
11 federal government, and to limit the terms of office of federal  
12 officials and members of Congress; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That, unless rescinded by a succeeding  
14 legislature, this application by the 85th Texas Legislature  
15 constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V  
16 of the United States Constitution until at least two-thirds of the  
17 legislatures of the several states have applied to Congress to call  
18 a convention for the limited purpose of proposing one or more  
19 amendments to the constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the  
20 federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of the  
21 federal government, and to limit the terms of office of federal  
22 officials and members of Congress; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
24 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to  
25 the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the  
26 Senate of the Congress of the United States, and to all members of  
27 the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this

1 resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as an  
2 application to Congress for a convention under Article V of the  
3 United States Constitution for the limited purpose of proposing one  
4 or more amendments to the constitution to impose fiscal restraints  
5 on the federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of  
6 the federal government, and to limit the terms of office of federal  
7 officials and members of Congress; and, be it further

8         RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
9 copies of this resolution to the secretaries of state and to the  
10 presiding officers of the legislatures of the several states with  
11 the request that they join this state in applying to Congress for a  
12 convention under Article V of the United States Constitution for  
13 the limited purpose of proposing one or more amendments to the  
14 constitution to impose fiscal restraints on the federal government,  
15 to limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and  
16 to limit the terms of office of federal officials and members of  
17 Congress.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.J.R. No. 2 was adopted by the Senate on February 28, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 20, Nays 11; and that the Senate concurred in House amendments on May 10, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 20, Nays 10.

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Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.J.R. No. 2 was adopted by the House, with amendments, on May 4, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 94, Nays 51, two present not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House